

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 678

By Faulk

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Lyons Alexander Hamblen of Rogersville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Lyons Alexander Hamblen; and

WHEREAS, Lyons Alexander Hamblen was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a pillar of the Rogersville community, Lyons A. Hamblen held several public offices during his lifetime, including County Trustee and Magistrate of the Hawkins County Court, as well as membership on the Rogersville City School Board and the Rogersville Housing Authority; and

WHEREAS, a successful and distinguished business leader, Mr. Lyons was an officer of Citizens Union Bank before taking a well-deserved retirement in 1987 after completing more than thirty years of exemplary service; and

WHEREAS, the youngest son of Charles and Flora Johnson Hamblen, Lyons Alexander Hamblen was a graduate of Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, where he received a degree in economics; and

WHEREAS, a member of this Nation's "Greatest Generation", Mr. Hamblen was drafted into service during his sophomore year at Carson-Newman and served with the 35th Division of the U.S. Army during World War II; and

WHEREAS, seeing combat in the European Theater, Mr. Hamblen fought in the legendary Battle of the Bulge and was awarded five battle stars, a Certificate of Merit, and the Bronze Star for his distinguished record of military service; and

WHEREAS, a talented athlete, Lyons Hamblen also served as the catcher on his division's baseball team, the "Santa Fe Indians," in Koblenz, Germany, after V-E Day, playing alongside and against several major league ballplayers; and

WHEREAS, a former Chairman of the Hawkins County Republican Party, Mr. Hamblen was past Commander of American Legion Post 21 in Rogersville, a 32nd degree Mason, and a member of the Jericho Shrine Temple and Scottish Rites; and

WHEREAS, Lyons Hamblen was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hamblen enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of sixty-one years, Muriel Bennett Hamblen, and was the proud parent of two children, Carole H. Fowler and Lyons Alexander Hamblen, Jr., and beloved grandfather of three grandchildren, Alexander Hamblen Fowler, Julielle Alexandria Hamblen, and Lyons Alexander Hamblen III; and

WHEREAS, Lyons Hamblen leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Lyons Alexander Hamblen, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Hamblen.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.